

### REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being vague and indefinite. In response thereto, Claim 3 has now been amended to claim a ceramic paste used for forming ceramic capillary ribs, which comprises a paste containing one of a glass powder and a glass/ceramic mixed powder in an amount of from 30 to 90 wt.%, a resin in an amount of 0.3 to 15 wt.% and a solvent mixture containing a solvent, a plasticizer and a dispersant in an amount of from 3 to 70 wt.%. In this regard, it is noted that Claim 3 has now been amended so to more closely comply with U.S. patent practice and procedure and claims the paste itself rather than a method of use of the paste. Moreover, such claim is now independently claimed and is no longer dependent upon Claims 1 or 2. It is further noted that Claim 4 further defines the type of resin claimed in Claim 3 by stating that such comprises one of a thermosetting resin and a photosetting resin, meaning that either a thermosetting resin or a photosetting resin may be utilized. In this regard it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would therefore understand the resin being claimed, particularly when reference is made to the specification for interpreting the scope of such claim as is proper under U.S. patent practice and procedure.

With regard to Claim 9, it is noted that such claim is believed to be properly understandable to one of ordinary skill in the art when taken in combination with the explanation of such solvent as set forth at page 10, lines 3-15 of the specification. In this regard, it is understood that one of ordinary skill in the art that the solvent mixture comprises one of a plurality of kinds of solvents having boiling points which are different from each other by more than 30°C. As an example, a first solvent may have a boiling point of 120°C

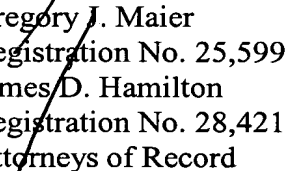
while a second solvent in the mixture has a boiling point of 160°C. These solvents would therefore meet the limitations set forth in Claim 8 insofar as their boiling points differ from each other by more than 30°C.

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration of Claims 3-10 is believed to be in order and the same is hereby respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the scope of the claims or the proper wording of the claims, however, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney to discuss the same.

In view of the foregoing, an early and favorable Office Action is believed to be in order and the same is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 3, lines 8-12- please replace the paragraph with the following text:

--The second conventional forming method is shown in Fig. 23, in which it is necessary to make a coating of a photosensitive film for forming the resist layer, and to carry out complicated steps such as exposure and development. Another inconvenience is that removal of most [part] of the pattern forming layer by sand blasting requires [much] a large amount of material for the pattern forming layer.--

Page 7, lines 2-22, please replace the paragraph with the following text:

--A first embodiment of the present invention will now be described in detail with reference to the drawings. The ceramic paste in this embodiment contains from 30 to 95 wt.% glass powder or mixed glass-ceramic powder, from 0.3 to 15 wt.% resin, and from 3 to 70 wt.% solvent medium containing a solvent, a plasticizer and a dispersant. The ceramic paste should preferably contain from 70 to 90 wt.% glass powder or a mixed glass-ceramic powder, from 0.5 to 3.5 wt.% resin and from 7 to 20 wt.% solvent mixture (a solvent, a plasticizer and a dispersant). The content of the glass powder or the mixed glass-ceramic powder is limited within a range of from 30 to 95 wt.%. A content of under 30 wt.% makes it difficult to obtain ceramic capillary ribs of a prescribed shape by the use of a blade, and a content of over 95 wt.% makes it difficult to uniformly coat the paste on the substrate surface. The resin content is limited within a range of from 0.3 to 15 wt.%. A content under 0.3 % makes it difficult to obtain ceramic capillary ribs of a prescribed shape by the use of

the blade, and a content of over 15 wt.% makes it difficult to uniformly coat the paste on the substrate surface and leads to the drawback of organic substances remaining in the ceramic ribs after firing. Further, the content of the solvent mixture is limited within a range of from 3 to 70 wt.%. With a content of under 3 wt.%, it is difficult to uniformly coat the paste on the substrate surface, and with a content of over 70 wt.%, it is difficult to obtain ceramic capillary ribs of a desired shape by the use of the blade. By blending the paste as described above, it is possible to obtain a paste having a viscosity within a range of from 1,000 to 500,000 cps, and accurately form ceramic capillary ribs 13 while inhibiting dripping of the ceramic capillary ribs 13 formed on the substrate.--

Page 11, line 28 to page 12, line 11, please replace the paragraph with the following text:

--Referring again to Fig. 1, formation of the ceramic capillary ribs 13 by the use of the blade 12 having the configuration described above is accomplished by thrusting the comb-teeth 12b formed on the blade 12 into the ceramic paste film 11 formed by coating the ceramic paste onto the surface of the substrate 10, and with the edge 12a of the blade kept in contact with the substrate 10 surface, moving the blade in a certain direction as shown by the solid line arrow in Fig. 1 while fixing the substrate 10, or moving the substrate 10 in a certain direction as shown by the broken line arrow in Fig. 1 while fixing the blade 12. As a result of this movement, portions of the paste coated onto the substrate 10 surface, corresponding to the comb-teeth 12b of the blade 12 move to the gaps between the comb-teeth 12b or are swept off. Only the paste located in the gaps between the comb-teeth remains on the substrate 10, thus forming ceramic capillary ribs 13 on the substrate 10 surface. When the depth of the comb-teeth is [larger] greater than the thickness of the paste film 11, the paste swept off upon movement of the blade 12 or the glass substrate 10 enters the groove, thus

permitting formation of the ceramic capillary ribs 13 having a height larger than the thickness of the paste film 11.--

#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

--Claims 1 and 2 (Canceled)

3. (Amended) A ceramic paste used for [a method of] forming ceramic capillary ribs [according to claims 1 or 2, wherein the step of forming], which comprises [the paste comprises forming] a paste containing one of a glass powder [or] and a glass/ceramic mixed powder in an amount of from 30 to 95 wt.%, a resin in an amount of from 0.3 to 15 wt.%, and a solvent mixture containing a solvent, a plasticizer and a dispersant in an amount of from 3 to 70 wt.%.

Claims 11-47 (Canceled).--